

Pashkov V. The system of higher education as an object of political management in the Third Reich: objectives and consequences

The article considers main directions, stages and instruments of transformation of the higher education system of Germany in condition of totalitarian regime. Author analyses educational changes, connected with policy of nazification, and their consequences for institutional development of universities in the Third Reich. After establishment of Hitler`s dictatorship in 1933 totalitarian practices were put in internal life of universities, that led to the loss of academic autonomy and merge with the state. At the same time majority of academic community didn`t resist policy of nazification and cooperated with Nazi regime.

In the article author considers row of political and organizational measures of power, which radically transformed German higher education system according to Nazi ideology. Firstly, new power started repressions within teachers and students to drop undesirable elements. In result of such policy during the 12 years of the totalitarian regime about 20% of teachers were fired, and the number of students decreased in more than twice. Access to the higher education began to determine not academic achievements or social origin, but cleanliness of race and political loyalty.

Secondly, Nazi regime abolished academic self-governance and integrated the higher education system in a model of corporate state. The principle of election of the university leadership has been replaced with nomenclature nomination. Academic space was covered by a net of political institutions designed to control the educational and research activity: the ruling party committees have been established in universities, membership in the National Socialist Union of Students and the National Socialist Union of Teachers has become compulsory. Finally, the power radically ideologized curricula and research topics. Educational programs began to display the Nazi views on society, state, history and culture.

Key words: the higher education, educational policy, The Third Reich, totalitarian regime, National Socialism, national community.